



**MINUTES  
PARK BOARD MEETING  
April 5, 2021**

**Meeting Location**

Long Lake Public Works, 2145 Daniels Street

**Present:** Members: Donny Chillstrom (Chair), Alicia Larson, Suzanne Caswell, and Thomas Joyce

**Others Present:** Public Works Director: Sean Diercks; and City Council Liaison: Gina Joyce

**Selection of Park Board Chair and Secretary Officer Positions**

The Park Board unanimously recommended appointment of Donny Chillstrom to Park Board Chair and Thomas Joyce to Secretary Officer positions.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm.

**Approve Agenda**

*A motion was made by A. Larson, seconded by G. Joyce, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: all.*

**Approve Minutes**

*A motion was made by T. Joyce, seconded by S. Caswell, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: all.*

**Diamond Lake Regional Trail (DLRT) Project Update**

Stephen Shurson, Landscape Architect from the Three Rivers Park District (TRPD) led the meeting. The TRPD team has met with several City Councils in the region, and a few things have changed since their initial presentations last year. The DLRT isn't an imminent construction project. The goal is to create more of a destination-like, scenic trail.

TRPD has fielded lots of feedback over the past year through public engagement, mostly virtually and through their webpage. The goal is to narrow down to one singular line or preferred route. They are currently at different stages with different parts of the trail.

Medina City Council was not in favor of any options laid out by TRPD for the trail; they asked the team to consider a different route; now there is an approach to circumvent the main part of Medina and plot the trail through Baker Park. The DLRT team is still re-analyzing different routes to draft a master plan. Existing trails in Long Lake could provide an alternate route towards Baker Park.

Chair Chillstrom observed that the alternate routes proposed for the DLRT don't change much for Long Lake when it comes to trails, and asked TRPD if the City of Long Lake would get reimbursement for trail maintenance. Mr. Shurson responded that if TRPD could reach agreement with the City of Long Lake, that TRPD would assume maintenance responsibilities for the affected trails. The range and nature of support/maintenance for trails varied; a figure of \$500/mile was offered up as a possible estimation for winter reimbursement.

Since Long Lake's trails are already 8'-10' wide, they already fulfill trail guidelines for Three Rivers Park District. The portion of the Luce Line trail used for the DLRT would remain unpaved as dictated by community preference and precedent.

Board member Caswell raised a concern regarding bikers speeding by on the Luce Line Trail and remarked about a dog that received a fatal kick from a rogue biker this past year. Board member Larson expressed concern regarding

packs of bikers getting lost looking for the Dakota and Luce Line trails near her home, with concern that those packs represented a safety liability. After discussion, the Park Board generally agreed that Long Lake trails would be in high use and that sidewalk traffic would exist regardless of the DLRT path.

TRPD's proposed alternate option sends the DLRT through the City of Long Lake, via Wayzata Boulevard W or on Wurzer Trail parallel to Highway 12. Council liaison G. Joyce suggested utilizing the Wurzer Trail parallel to Highway 12 given the high car traffic associated with Birch's restaurant on Wayzata Boulevard W. If Council were to approve DLRT utilizing this route, TRPD would need to pursue the purchase and implementation of a more heavily marked crosswalk with lights.

Secretary Officer T. Joyce asked about an alternative route that would take the DLRT up Orono's new trail on East Long Lake Road, west on Spring Hill Road, and down County Road 6, connecting to Baker Park further west on County Road 6. The DLRT team responded that the Orono City Council was completely against any path that would impact private property. Mr. Shurson also expressed concern around the safety/cost associated with crossing north over County Road 6.

The Park Board made the recommendation for the DLRT to utilize the Wurzer Trail and connect to Baker Park by implementing a trail track northwest through Martha Lane, Symes Street, Lake Street, and onto Wayzata Boulevard W. This trail would mostly utilize existing Long Lake trails and streets, and would potentially involve requesting an easement for a community trail on the west side Symes Street as a part of future new developments. The Park Board recommended that TRPD provide the City of Long Lake with: 1) enhanced crosswalk over Wayzata Boulevard W; 2) pursuit of an easement and trail on Symes Street; and 3) purposeful signage directing DLRT traffic. The Park Board does not recommend any plan that displaces public park space (i.e. Nelson Lakeside Park).

#### **Scheduling Next Meeting**

- The Park Board set their next meeting date for Monday, May 3, 2021 at 5:30 pm to be held at Nelson Lakeside Park.

#### **Adjourn:**

Hearing no objection, Chair Chillstrom adjourned the meeting by general consent at 6:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Thomas Joyce, Park Board Secretary Officer